

Appl. No.: 09/887,052

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-4, 18-19, 24-25, 30-31, 36, 38, and 83-84 have been allowed. The Applicants hereby request amendment of Claims 36 and 38 to change the strain designation "~~Coryneform~~ glutamicum" to --Corynebacterium glutamicum--. The latter term is consistent with the designations used for the other *Corynebacterium* strains already described by the amended claims and is described throughout the specification, for instance, at page 9, lines 13, 15, 26 and 29-35. Thus, this amendment does not add any new matter. Moreover, no new search would be required. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request entry of the above amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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